



**BILL SYNOPSIS**

**Committee: Public Safety and Government Operations**

**Bill 21-0086**

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**Minority and Women’s Business Program – Interim Extension**

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*Sponsor: Councilman Burnett on behalf of The Administration*

*Introduced: May 17, 2021*

**Purpose:**

For the purpose of postponing, for an interim period, the automatic termination of the Minority and Women’s Business Program; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to City procurement requirements.

**Effective:** On the date of enactment

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**Agency Reports**

Mayor's Office of Employment Development	
MWBOO - Law	
Department of Law	
MWOBD - Mayor's Office	
Department of Finance	Favorable

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## Analysis

### Current Law:

Article V – Finance, Property, and Procurement; Section 28-5; Baltimore City Code (Edition 2000)

### Background

In 2014, the City of Baltimore commissioned NERA Economic Consulting to conduct a study to evaluate: The State of Minority-and Women-Owned Business Enterprise: Evidence from Baltimore. The studies purpose was to investigate whether business enterprises in the City’s market area had a full and fair opportunity to compete for prime and associated subcontracts. Data analysis was conducted in the study and it found evidence consistent with the presence of business discrimination against Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises. The report also details an analysis that found the City’s own contracting and purchasing process contained documented evidence of business discrimination.

In Article V – Section 28:3, one of the objectives of this study and subsequent legislation was to provide remedies to address the effects of past discrimination by setting MWBE goals, instituting race and gender equity into the MBE/WBE Program, and providing criminal penalties for fraudulent misuse of this subtitle.

Article V – Section 28:5 is set to expire on December 31, 2021, if this bill is enacted it would extend the automatic termination period until May 30, 2023.

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### Additional Information

**Fiscal Note:** Not Available

**Information Source(s):** Agency Reports, NERA Economic Consulting

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Analysis Date: June 21, 2021

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